

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computer program product for backtracing network performance, the  
2 computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having  
3 computer readable code thereon, including program code comprising:
  - 4 instructions for causing a processor to perform as a web monitor, said web  
5 monitor capturing a source address of a packet received from a network, said web  
6 monitor performing a network backtrace on said source address; and
  - 7 instructions for causing a processor to perform as a client, said client  
8 collecting and processing data resulting from said network backtrace, said client  
9 presenting results of said processing.
- 1 2. The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing a processor to access a database, said database storing data captured  
3 by said web monitor
- 1 3. The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing said client to perform a reporting function.
- 1 4. The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing said client to perform an administrative function.
- 1 5. The computer program product of claim 1 wherein said backtrace extends  
2 to a system selected from the group consisting of an end-user machine, a firewall  
3 and a router.

1       6.     The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions  
2     for causing a processor to capture a plurality of packets, for identifying SYN  
3     packets within said plurality of packets, for extracting source addresses from said  
4     SYN packets, and for extracting destination addresses from said SYN packets.

1       7.     The computer program product of claim 6 further comprising instructions  
2     for causing said monitor to trace the network routes back to said captured source  
3     address.

1       8.     The computer program product of claim 6 further comprising instructions  
2     for causing said monitor to observe the performance of the network on the path  
3     from said source address to said client.

1       9.     The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions  
2     for causing said product for backtracing network performance to include a  
3     plurality of intervals.

1       10.    The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals  
2     comprises a write interval.

1       11.    The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals  
2     comprises a trace interval.

1       12.    The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals  
2     comprises a prune interval.

1    13.    The computer program product of claim 10 wherein when a user address  
2    is new within a write interval said user address is processed as a new user address,  
3    and when a user address has already occurred within a write interval a user  
4    request counter is incremented.

1    14.    The computer program product of claim 10 wherein each new address  
2    within a write interval is time-stamped.

1    15.    The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the first time a  
2    particular address is captured within a trace interval a traceroute operation is run  
3    on said address.

1    16.    A method of backtracing network performance comprising the steps of:  
2       capturing a source address of a packet received from a network;  
3       performing a network backtrace on said source address;  
4       collecting and processing data resulting from said network backtrace; and  
5       presenting results of said collecting and processing.

1    17.    The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of accessing a  
2    database, said database storing data captured by said backtrace.

1    18.    The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of performing a  
2    reporting function.

1    19.    The method of claim 16 further comprising performing an administrative  
2    function.

1       20.     The method of claim 16 wherein said backtrace extends to a system  
2     selected from the group consisting of an end-user machine, a firewall and a router.

1       21.     The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of:  
2              capturing a plurality of packets;  
3              identifying SYN packets within said plurality of packets;  
4              extracting source addresses from said SYN packets; and  
5              extracting destination addresses from said SYN packets.

1       22.     The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of tracing the network  
2     routes back to said captured source address.

1       23.     The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of observing the  
2     performance of the network on the path from said source address to said client.

1       24.     The method of claim 16 wherein when a user address is new within a write  
2     interval said user address is processed as a new user address, and when a user  
3     address has already occurred within a write interval a user request counter is  
4     incremented.

1       25.     The method of claim 10 wherein each new address within a write interval  
2     is time-stamped.

1       26.     The method of claim 16 wherein the first time a particular address is  
2     captured within a trace interval a traceroute operation is run on said address.